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Borough of Tenby

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1938

"Observer Office," Lower Frog Street, Tenby

BOROUGH OF TENBY.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR YEAR 1938.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my report dealing with the health and sanitary conditions for the year ended December 31st, 1938.

The report is constructed on lines advocated by the Ministry of Health.

There have been two cases of Scarlet Fever and one of Puerperal Pyrexia. No cases of Diphtheria, the latter being a marked improvement and doubtless due to the fact that immunization was carried out in the schools. It is hoped that the County Council will have this done regularly in future as the good results are very marked where it has been done systematically.

There is a further scheme of housing being arranged to replace the cases of houses which have been condemned and some overcrowding which still exists, but progress is very slow.

Area of Borough	420.266 acres
Population, Resident	3,689
Elevation of area built on	10—150ft.
Geological Formation	Limestone
Number of Families or Occupiers	1,161
Inhabited Houses	1,086
Rateable Value	24.150
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£100
Water Supply	Constant Service
Births	M. 28 ; F. 31.
Birth Rate	15.6
Death Rate	13.1
Death Rate, Corrected	13.1
Tymotu Death Rate	Nil
Tuberculosis Death Rate	.3 per 1,000

Social Conditions.

Boarding House and Hotel-keeping, Shop-keeping, Fishing. There are also a number of private residents dependent to a large extent on summer visitors.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

LIVE BIRTHS—

	Male.	Female.
Total	28	31
Legitimate	27	30
Illegitimate	1	1

STILL BIRTHS—

Total	1	2
Legitimate	1	2
Illegitimate	—	—

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth—Nil.
From Sepsis ..... Nil.
Deaths of Children under one year ..... 1 (1.6 per cent.)

Causes of Death during the Year 1938.

	Male.	Female.
Diphtheria	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0	1
Other Tuberculosis	0	0
Cancer	2	4
Heart Disease	9	8
Other Circulatory	6	4
Bronchitis	0	0
Peptic Ulcer	0	1
Other Liver Diseases	1	0
Other Digestive	0	0
Nephritis	0	0
Other Violence	0	0
Other Defined Causes	3	8

Hospital.

Isolation Hospital at Pembroke Dock administered by County Council, to which cases of infectious disease are admitted from this area.

Cottage Hospital at Tenby, 16 beds, which also serves part of surrounding district. The beds are sufficient in number to meet the demands of the district, except on occasions.

Maternity cases are in emergency admitted to the Maternity Ward of Cottage Hospital.

Venereal disease under County Council arrangements at Swansea.

Chronic sick: Woodbine House, Pembroke.

Tuberculosis under King Edward VII. Sanatorium Scheme at Sealyham and St. Brides.

Mental Cases: Three Counties Asylum, Carmarthen.

Puerperal Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia and Ophthalmia Neonatorum would be treated in local Hospital.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

Tuberculosis Dispensary held at Cottage Hospital 2nd and 4th Fridays at 2 p.m.

Nursing in the Home.

Tenby and District Nursing Association, affiliated to the Pembrokeshire Nursing Association, employs one C.M.B. Nurse with a general training, who also does District Nursing.

Midwives: The Council is not the supervising authority.

Maternity and Nursing Homes: None in existence.

Maternal Mortality Cases are investigated by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations and Water, Milk and Foodstuffs are carried out through the County Council.

Legislation in Force.

General adoptive in existence relating to Public Streets, Sewerage, Cesspools and Slaughterhouses.

The promiscuous camping which has been in vogue is at last being taken in hand, and officials of the Ministry are available to help and advise in this matter, and the system of licences is being enforced, which will give better results.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply has been the source of great arguments between the opposing sections, and late in 1938 the whole matter has been taken up again with the Ministry, and it really looks that the Milford scheme will go through finally and give the town at last a proper gravitation supply in about three years. Meanwhile, the chlorination and filtration goes on under the supervision of the Water Engineer, who is thoroughly conversant with his duties and carries them out most conscientiously. The water is sent for examination and report regularly and the resulting reports as to purity are satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Western Outfall is working satisfactorily. There were considerable complaints of sewerage coming on the beach, which was reported to the Ministry. The cause was found to be due to more sewage being emptied into the stream from the camp and that the Pavilion on the South Beach also discharged sewage direct into the stream instead of into the controlled tank. This is now being put in order.

The Eastern Outfall is not satisfactory, requiring attention and extension.

Scavenging and Disposal of Refuse.

Scavenging is carried out by cart and lorry, covers are not used as they should be. The service is early and regular, and streets are kept clean. The outlying parts of the town might have a more frequent service. The refuse is burnt on a tip, which is kept tidy and causes no nuisance.

Disinfection of Rooms.

With Formalin if required. No facilities of disinfecting clothing, except by sending to Isolation Hospital, Pembroke Dock.

Verminous People.

No facilities.

Baths and Lavatories.

No Public Baths. Lavatories were built and opened during the last year for convenience of people on the North Beach and at the Marine Baths at entrance to South Beach, and are a great convenience and benefit, but the expense of upkeep is very heavy.

Arrangements for Post Mortems.

At last steps have been taken to improve the Mortuary and extra water, light and other suggestions have been carried out.

Cemetery.

The local Cemetery has sufficient accommodation.

Schools.

The Schools are satisfactory except the Parochial which is old and rather primitive and should really be reconstructed.

Acute Infectious Disease.

No Diphtheria ; 2 Scarlet Fever, and a few mild cases of Measles.

Tuberculosis.

	New Cases.		Deaths.	
	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.
0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	1
5	0	0	0	0
15	1	0	0	0
25	2	0	0	0
35	0	1	0	0
45	0	0	0	0
55	0	0	0	0
65 & upwards	0	0	0	0

Notification of Tuberculosis is satisfactory.

Slaughter House.

Is inspected and is kept clean. Better accommodation of fasting pens and flushing arrangements would be beneficial.

INSPECTION OF MEAT.

No stated times for slaughtering and no control over meat slaughtered outside the Borough and brought into the town. It is a very difficult matter to arrange as there are no stated times to slaughter and there are heavy demands in the summer of larger quantities. The Slaughter House is leased to certain butchers and until the property is in the hands of the Council who will employ the slaughterers and arrange the time it seems impossible to have any proper supervision.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No case in 1938.

Notifiable Diseases.

Smallpox	0	Puerperal Fever	0
Scarlet Fever	2	Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Diphtheria	0	Pneumonia	2
Enteric	0		

CHARLES MATHIAS,

Medical Officer.

June, 1939.

BOROUGH OF TENBY.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1938.

SUNSHINE.

Total hours for 1938—1491.6.
(Yearly average, 1927/38 inclusive—1,613 hours.)

Highest for one month—237.4 hours, April.

Highest for one day—15.3 hours on 16th June.

Total days on which the sun shone—273.

RAINFALL.

Total inches for 1938—44.69 inches.
(Yearly average, 1915/38 inclusive—42.39 inches.)

Highest for one month—7.10 inches November.

Highest for one day—2.15 inches on 2nd August.

Total days on which rain fell—212.

TEMPERATURE (Fahr.).

Maximum temperature average for 1938—56.3 degrees.
(Yearly average 1927/38 inclusive—56.0 degrees.)

Minimum temperature average for 1938—45.7 degrees.
(Yearly average 1927/38 inclusive—45.1 degrees.)

Warmest day for 1938—76 degrees on 7th August.

Warmest night—62 degrees on 2nd August.

Coldest day—30 degrees on 19th December.

Coldest night—24 degrees on 20th December.

G. P. WEBB,
Borough Accountant and Meteorological Officer.

Tenby.
4th January, 1939.

BOROUGH OF TENBY.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Borough for the Year ending December 31st, 1938.

HOUSE DRAINAGE AND SANITARY FITTINGS.

Inspections have been carried out from time to time and several new connections and existing drainage examined, and in most cases were found satisfactory. Some defects were found in existing drains, and on verbal or informal instructions the same were remedied.

ACCUMULATION OF REFUSE.

A few cases of accumulation were investigated and were remedied on verbal instructions.

COWSHEDS.

There are three cowsheds within the Borough, all of which were cleaned and whitewashed.

WORKSHOPS.

There are 62 workshops, and 31 were inspected and found satisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES.

There are nine bakehouses, all of which were found satisfactory.

DISINFECTIONS.

All premises after infection or on suspicion are fumigated with Formalin. During the year 17 premises were so disinfected.

HOUSING.

The occupants of the slum clearance areas in Bank Lane and Upper and Lower Saltern having been housed in the new Council houses at Newell Hill, these premises have now been demolished.

During the year eight houses have been erected by private enterprise, while several more are in course of construction.

SEWERAGE.

The sewerage of the Borough is in good condition and has been periodically inspected throughout the year.

The following is a list of inspections carried out.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

B. MORLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

LIST OF INSPECTIONS.

Drainage and Sanitary Fittings	34
Accumulations	4
Cowsheds	3
Workshops	31
Bakehouses	9
Disinfections	17

No Formal Notices were served during the Year, but twenty-seven Informal Notices were served and complied with.

B. MORLEY,

Sanitary Inspector.